

## Claims

I claim:

1. On paper currency with one or more bar codes and/or one or more radio frequency identification (RFID) tags, the improvement wherein said bar codes or RFID tags will declare the amount of said paper currency and/or the country of origin;
2. The improvement where claim 1 will significantly reduce the time it takes to count paper currency and improve the accuracy of counting paper currency;
3. The improvement where claim 1 will significantly reduce the time it takes to sort paper currency and improve the accuracy of sorting paper currency;
4. On paper currency with one or more bar codes and/or one or more radio frequency identification (RFID) tags, the improvement wherein said bar codes or RFID tags will declare a unique assigned number that cannot be duplicated or counterfeited without detection of such on said paper currency;
5. The improvement where claim 4 will be a more reliable means for identifying counterfeit paper currency and will significantly reduce counterfeit paper currency;
6. The improvement where claim 4 will permit the exchange of paper currency to be traced thereby helping track the source of counterfeit paper currency (this applies to all currencies through a global clearinghouse as well) and helping track lost or stolen paper currency;
7. The improvement where claim 4 will cost less to manufacture than current paper currency using expensive paper stock and color patterns to deter counterfeit paper currency;
8. A method for tracking paper currency and/or personal checks and/or corporate checks and/or bank checks and/or payroll checks and/or credit cards and/or debit cards and/or birth certificates and/or student ID's and/or social security cards and/or driver's licenses and/or visas and/or passports and/or airport baggage and/or train baggage and/or bus baggage, including the steps of:
  - Building a national and/or global clearinghouse to manage a database for certain transaction files;
  - Putting one or more bar codes and/or one or more radio frequency identification (RFID) tags on the paper currency and/or personal checks and/or corporate checks and/or bank checks and/or payroll checks and/or credit cards and/or debit cards and/or birth certificates and/or student ID's and/or social security cards and/or driver's licenses and/or visas and/or passports and/or airport baggage and/or train baggage and/or bus baggage;
  - Scanning the paper currency and/or personal checks and/or corporate checks and/or bank checks and/or payroll checks and/or credit cards and/or debit cards and/or birth certificates and/or student ID's and/or social security cards and/or driver's licenses and/or visas and/or passports and/or airport baggage and/or train baggage and/or bus baggage into a transaction file;
  - Transmitting said transaction file via the internet or any secure communication link to the clearinghouse; and
  - Receiving approval or rejection of said transaction from the clearinghouse.
9. The improvement where claim 8 reduces counterfeit items including paper currency and/or personal checks and/or corporate checks and/or bank checks and/or payroll checks and/or credit cards and/or debit cards and/or birth certificates and/or student ID's and/or social security cards and/or driver's licenses and/or visas and/or passports.
10. The improvement where claim 8 increases the safety of airline, train or bus travel, or car rental or truck rental.
11. The improvement where claim 8 reduces lost and/or stolen baggage at airports and/or train stations and/or bus terminals.